



# Year 2023/2024 Storage Cycle Bundled capacity product Auction Regulation

Auction identification number —  
Conexus Baltic Grid IPGK1YP/2023/2

## **1. Purpose of the Auction, general information**

- 1.1. The purpose of the Auction is to ensure a clear, transparent and non-discriminatory allocation of Inčukalns underground gas storage capacity (hereinafter - storage) to users of the natural gas storage system (hereinafter - system user) when carrying out storage capacity booking.
- 1.2. Joint Stock Company “Conexus Baltic Grid” (hereinafter - AS “Conexus Baltic Grid”), unified registration number: 40203041605, address: Stigu Street 14, Riga, LV – 1021, taking into account the Decision No 1/14 of the Public Utilities Commission of 1 October 2020 “Regulations Regarding the Use of the Inčukalns Underground Gas Storage Facility“, "(hereinafter - “Storage Regulation”), as defined in Annex 2, points 1.1 and 1.2, the system user Bundled capacity product (hereinafter – Capacity product) for the year 2023/2024 storage cycle shall be allocated by applying the auction procedure (“Auction”).
- 1.3. The Auction item is a specific storage capacity usage right in the year 2023/2024 storage cycle within Capacity product, using which the system user can store natural gas at the amount of storage capacity allocated as a result of the Auction, place natural gas in storage and remove natural gas from storage.
- 1.4. Type of Auction method: “pay- as-clear”.
- 1.5. Within the framework of this Auction the maximum amount of storage capacity available for Capacity product is 1 541 532 MWh.
- 1.6. Any user of the natural gas transmission system and system user (who has signed transmission system services agreement and balancing agreement with one of the natural gas transmission system operators of Common Estonia and Latvia balancing zone and the natural gas storage service agreement with AS “Conexus Baltic Grid”) may participate in the auction (hereinafter - Auction Participant).
- 1.7. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall, at the request of the Applicant, provide an explanation of the requirements contained in this Regulation. The Applicant shall submit the request for clarification electronically to the contact persons of AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” specified in Sub-paragraph 2.22 of this Regulation not later than three working days prior to the date of the Auction referred to in Sub-paragraph 2.1 of this Regulation. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall reply to the request for clarification electronically not later than one working day prior to the date of the Auction.
- 1.8. The Applicant when contacting AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” in the cases provided for in this Regulation, submits the information and documents on Applicant’s own discretion either in Latvian or English.

## **2. Auction process, submission of applications and offers**

- 2.1. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” holds an Auction on March 15, 2023 (hereinafter – Auction day).
- 2.2. The Offer Sheet in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation (hereinafter - Offer) may be submitted by an Auction Participant who meets the conditions set out in sub-paragraph 1.6 of these Regulations.
- 2.3. The Auction Participant submits an Offer to AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” by uploading it to the IT Platform before 11:00 (Latvian time) Auction day to recipient Conexus Baltic Grid AS [21X000000001379R].

- 2.4. The Auction Participant shall submit one Offer with one upload. If several Offers are submitted with one upload, all Offers submitted by the Auction Participant are rejected and not considered by the AS “Conexus Baltic Grid”.
- 2.5. Offer shall be presented in an electronic format (.xlsx or .ods) and protected by Microsoft Office or Libre Office Encryption using a password.
- 2.6. Auction Participant on Auction day from 11:00 until 12:00 (Latvian time) sends to AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” the password of Offer file to the e-mail address [auction@conexus.lv](mailto:auction@conexus.lv). AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” immediately, but not later than Auction day 12:10 (Latvian time), shall electronically inform the Auction Participant regarding receipt of the password submitted electronically. If the password of the Offer file is not submitted, it is not possible to open the Offer file or the Offer file password is submitted outside the time limit specified in this Sub-paragraph, the Offer shall not be considered.
- 2.7. Offers submitted to AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall be opened after the expiry of the deadline for the delivery of the Offer file password specified in Sub-paragraph 2.6 of this Regulation. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” only opens Offers received within the time limit specified in Sub-paragraph 2.3 of this Regulation. All Offers received after the deadline referred to in Sub-paragraph 2.3 of this Regulation, and Offers which from Auction day 11:00 have been withdrawn, are not considered.
- 2.8. Auction Participant may withdraw the submitted Offer until the end of the time period for the submission of the Offer, which is specified in Sub-paragraph 2.3 of this Regulation. If Auction Participant withdraws the Offer after the deadline referred to in Sub-paragraph 2.3 of the Regulation, the Offer shall be evaluated in accordance with Paragraph 4 of this Regulation and the Auction Participant shall be bound by the results of the Auction and the amount of the commitments announced by AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” in accordance with Paragraph 5 of this Regulation.
- 2.9. The content of the Offer and information regarding the submission and evaluation process of the Offer shall be limited access information, which shall be regarded as such in accordance with Section 112 Clause 18 of the Energy Law, Section 2 of the Trade Secret Protection Law and Section 5, Paragraph two, Clause 3 of the Freedom of Information Law.
- 2.10. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” may, after the opening of the Offers, request additional information from the Auction Participant regarding the Offer submitted. The Auction Participant shall send the reply to the request for additional information to AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” electronically within the time limit specified in the request for additional information, which may not be less than 1 (one) hour.
- 2.11. Auction Participant may include, within the scope of the Offer, several price bid offers for an Auction Participant's freely selected amount of storage capacity (hereinafter - Bid).
- 2.12. Auction Participant Bids for the amount of the requested Capacity product is not less than 1 MWh and greater than the maximum amount of storage capacity of the Capacity product specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation, rounded to an integer.
- 2.13. The Auction Participant shall specify in the Offer whether the requested amount of the Capacity product is considered to be fixed or variable, in order to avoid the allocation of a minor amount of storage capacity, if the circumstances specified in Sub-paragraph 4.4.2 of this Regulation occur.
- 2.14. Within the time limit specified in Sub-paragraph 2.3 of this Regulation, an Auction Participant may submit a new Offer. The last Offer submitted by the Auction Participant

shall be used when evaluating the Offer in accordance with Paragraph 4 of this Regulation.

- 2.15. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” rejects the Offer if it does not comply with the requirements laid down in this Regulation.
- 2.16. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” may terminate the Auction at any time if it has objective justification.
- 2.17. The Auction Participant shall bear all costs incurred by it in connection with the preparation and submission of the Offer. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” does not compensate or reimburse the Auction Participants for the losses associated with the Auction.
- 2.18. When submitting several Bids within the framework of the Offer, the Participant shall assume the responsibility that such structured Offer may be rejected in part in accordance with Sub-paragraph 4.2 of this Regulation.
- 2.19. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” has the right to reject the Offer of an Auction Participant which has not renewed the security for the fulfilment of liabilities from the beginning of the year 2022/2023 storage cycle withdrawal season until the date of the Auction and to which the storage system operator has sent the warning notice provided for in Paragraph 76<sup>1</sup> of the Storage Regulation.
- 2.20. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” has authorised the Head of Division, Jānis Akmens, to provide information on the Auction procedure and the requirements included in this Regulation, phone +371 29373375 and Deputy Head of Division Kaspars Skrābāns phone +371 29213960, email: auction@conexus.lv.

### **3. Bid price**

- 3.1. Minimum Bid price for Capacity product is EUR 0/MWh.
- 3.2. The Auction Participant shall present the Bid price per MWh *in euro* (EUR) with an accuracy of up to two decimal places without value added tax (VAT).

### **4. Evaluation of Offers, setting the premium**

- 4.1. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall evaluate only Offer submitted in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 2 of this Regulation.
- 4.2. AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” sorts out the Bids corresponding to the requirements of this Regulation in order of economic advantage following the Bid price (EUR/MWh) submitted in the Offer, starting with the highest offered Bid price proposed, until the maximum amount of available Capacity product set in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation is reached.
- 4.3. If the total amount of the Capacity product required by the Offers of the Auction Participants is less than the amount specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation, AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall be granted to the Auction Participant the total amount of the Capacity product requested in the Offer.
- 4.4. If the total amount of the Capacity product requested in the Offers of the Auction Participants exceeds the amount specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation, AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” allocates Capacity product in the following order and sequence:
  - 4.4.1. For an Auction Participant whose Bid price in the Offer is not the lowest (is not the closing Bid price, reaching amount set in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation) in

- accordance with the procedure laid down in Sub-paragraph 4.2 of the Regulation, Capacity product shall be allocated in the requested amount;
- 4.4.2. The amount of Capacity product equal to the difference between the amount specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation and the amount of Capacity product allocated in accordance with the procedures specified in Sub-paragraph 4.4.1 of this Regulation Capacity product amount shall be allocated proportionally to the share of Capacity product requested by the Participant of the Auction out of the total Capacity product of the Bids, in which the offered bid price is the closing price. Within the framework of the Bid, which is stated as fixed and cannot be allocated in the full amount of the specified Capacity product, no Capacity product shall be allocated. This Bid shall be excluded from the determination of the proportion and the determination of the amount of the Capacity product to be allocated to the Participants in Auction shall be repeated.
- 4.4.3. The Capacity product amount shall be allocated to the Auction Participant up to a full MWh, which is rounded down to full integer. Capacity product amount, which cannot be allocated to full MWh, is not allocated to Auction Participant.
- 4.5. The premium applicable to the amount of the Capacity product awarded to the Participants of AS Conexus Baltic Grid Auction shall be determined in accordance with the following procedure:
- 4.5.1. if the total amount of the Capacity product requested in the Offers submitted in the Auction does not exceed the amount specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation, the premium applicable to the amount of the Capacity product allocated to the Auction Participants shall be equal to the minimum Bid price specified in Sub-paragraph 3.1 of this Regulation.
- 4.5.2. if the total amount of the Capacity product requested in the submitted Offers exceeds the amount specified in Sub-paragraph 1.5 of this Regulation, the premium applicable to the amount of the Capacity product allocated to the Auction Participants shall be equal to the price indicated in the closing Bid before the amount of storage capacity set in sub-paragraph 1.5 has been reached or exceeded in accordance with Sub-paragraph 4.4 of the Regulation.

## **5. Notification of the results of the Auction, procedures for dispute, extent of the obligations and settlement procedures**

- 5.1. Until 11:00 following day after the Auction AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” simultaneously publishes on Common Estonia-Latvia balancing zone IT platform, informing all Participants of the Auction of the results on the website of AS “Conexus Baltic Grid”. On website of the AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall publish information on the total requested amount of storage capacity in the course of Auction, the total amount of storage capacity allocated within the Capacity product as a result of the Auction and the premium applicable to it (EUR/MWh). AS “Conexus Baltic Grid” shall send information regarding the results of the Auction to the respective Auction Participant on the IT platform Common Estonia-Latvia balancing zone and electronically only in the part attributable to the Offer submitted by the respective Auction Participant.
- 5.2. The winner of the Auction within three working days from the date of notification of the results of the Auction, as specified in Sub-paragraph 5.1 of this Regulation, within framework of review of Auction results has rights to dispute Auction results in the part that do not comply with Offer submitted by Auction Winner (hereinafter – Complaint).

Auction Winner sends to AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" email address auction@conexus.lv justified Complaint stating non-conformity between notification of Capacity product allocation and the Offer. AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" reviews the Complaint and within two working days informs respective Auction Winner about taken decision. Complaint shall not affect obligation of Auction Winner that is stated in Sub-paragraph 5.4 of this Regulation unless AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" in the decision of Complaint review provides otherwise.

- 5.3. AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" shall inform the Auction Participant of the amount of the Capacity product (MWh) allocated and the premium EUR/MWh (excluding VAT) applicable to it in the Capacity product allocation notification specified in Sub-paragraph 5.1 of this Regulation.
- 5.4. Following receipt of the notification of allocation of the Capacity product, Auction Participant shall be obliged to settle with AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" for the Capacity product allocated as a result of the Auction according to the terms of Storage Regulation, the storage service contract and in accordance with the procedures specified in this Regulation in accordance with the Capacity product Tariff 0,8761 EUR/MWh and the premium set as the result of the Auction. The premium (EUR/MWh) for the amount of the Capacity product allocated shall be paid by the Auction Participant to AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" in addition to the tariff for the Capacity product for the year 2023/2024 storage cycle - 0,8761 EUR/MWh.
- 5.5. The Auction Participant's fee to AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" for the allocated storage capacity as the result of the Auction is determined by multiplying the premium (EUR (excluding VAT)) by the amount of the Capacity product (MWh) allocated as the result of the Auction.
- 5.6. The fee for the premium as the result of the Auction set for the Auction Participant shall be included in the invoice issued by AS "Conexus Baltic Grid" for the storage service booked by the Auction Participant for part of the total premium fee in proportion to the remaining months.
- 5.7. Payment for the premium set as a result of the Auction shall be made by the Auction Participant in accordance with the procedures for payment and settlement specified in the storage service agreement.
- 5.8. The mutual obligations and liability of the parties for the amount of Capacity product allocated to the Auction Participant as a result of the Auction and the set premium shall be determined under the storage service agreement.
- 5.9. As a result of the Auction, the premium set for the amount of Capacity product allocated to the Auction Participant shall be included in the calculation of the amount of the security for the fulfilment of liabilities determined in accordance with Paragraph 76 of the Storage Regulation.

**Auction Offer Sheet (OFFER)**

**Bundled capacity product auction (id. No. Conexus Baltic Grid IPGK1YP/2023/2)**

Date of submission

The auction participant:

\_\_\_\_\_

EIC code:

Legal address:

Phone number:

Email address:

We are hereby submitting our offer for the auction of year 2023/2024 storage cycle Bundled capacity product (“Auction”) under the following conditions:

| Name of Auction participant | Price bid No. | Bundled capacity product amount * * (MWh) | Bundled capacity product amount * |          | Price (EUR/MWh) without VAT * * * |
|-----------------------------|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
|                             |               |   | Fixed                             | Variable |                                   |
|                             |               |   |                                   |          |                                   |
|                             |               |   |                                   |          |                                   |

*Note:*

*\* for each bid, it shall be indicated whether the amount of the Bundled capacity product indicated therein is fixed or variable, marked with ✓ in the corresponding column.*

*If the Auction Participant has chosen to submit several bids, the Auction Participant shall complete several bid boxes.*

*\* \* The amount of the Bundled capacity product shall be indicated rounded to an integer.*

*\* \* \* The bid price shall be indicated to two decimals.*

By submitting this offer, we confirm that we have prepared the offer independently.

By submitting this offer, we shall confirm that we comply with the requirements of the Auction Participants set out in the Auction Regulation and agree with the procedures for the performance of the Auction, the evaluation of offers and the allocation of storage capacity.

By submitting this offer, we confirm that in regards to us as Auction participant, to members of our Management board or Council members, to our authorised persons or procurators who are authorised to represent us, there are no international or national sanctions, there are no sanctions imposed by a Member State of the European Union or of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation affecting significant financial and capital market interests which could have an impact on the fulfilment of obligations under the Auction and the Natural Gas Storage Service Agreement.